

B I L L E S D O N

R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the

Y E A R E N D I N G

31st D E C E M B E R, 1951

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BILLESDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1951.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, I deal briefly in this report with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	49,728
Registrar General's estimate of population	..					7,804
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...			2,474
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£34,937
Sum represented by penny rate	...	...	...			£ 135

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Births - Legitimate	68	44	112
Illegitimate	3	3	6
Total	71	47	118
	<u>Rate for</u> <u>District</u>	<u>Rate for England</u> <u>and Wales</u>	
Birth Rate	15.1	15.5	
Death Rate	8.9	12.5	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	8.5	29.6	

These rates are very satisfactory and show that the health of the district has been very good during the year. It is particularly pleasing to record that there was only one death in an infant under one year of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Syphilitic disease	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	3
Coronary disease, angina	5	9
Hypertension with heart disease	6	1
Other heart disease	7	7
Other circulatory disease	2	1
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	2	3
Bronchitis	2	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	1
All other accidents	1	1
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	33	36
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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health - J. Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Camb.

The Medical Officer of Health acts for the Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Districts in which this District is included.

Sanitary Inspector - A. E. Sweeting, Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board. Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. Member of the Sanitary Inspector's Association.

The Sanitary Inspector is also Surveyor and is a whole time officer.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following examinations were carried out at the Public Health Laboratory during 1950 :-

Faeces	6
Throat Swab	7
Blood	3
Swab of ear pus	1
Nose Swab	1
Water	8

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during 1951

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total cases notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Scarlet fever	5	3	-
Measles	74	-	-
Whooping Cough	31	-	-
Pneumonia	6	-	1
Dysentery	5	-	-

AGE GROUPS

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1 2</u>	<u>2 3</u>	<u>3 4</u>	<u>4 5</u>	<u>5 10</u>	<u>10 15</u>	<u>15 35</u>	<u>35 45</u>	<u>45 65</u>	<u>65 and over</u>
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	4	6	11	7	37	5	3	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	1	4	4	4	15	-	-	1	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	-

The incidence of Infectious Disease during the year was light.

The Scarlet fever cases were of a mild type.

Diphtheria. No case of this disease was notified during the year. The immunisation scheme which was inaugurated by the Council is now carried on by the County Council and particulars are given at the end of this report of the number of children who were immunised during the year.

Tuberculosis.

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The total number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1951 was 33 as compared with 26 at the end of the previous year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water supply

During the year 8 samples in respect of 22 properties were taken from wells for bacteriological examination and all but two proved to be unsatisfactory. With regard to the unsatisfactory samples, as no mains supply was available, the users were advised to boil the water before using it for drinking purposes.

The progress made with regard to schemes for supplying mains water in various parts of the district is as follows :-

Cold Newton and Lowesby. The laying of a piped supply to these two parishes is nearing completion.

Newton Harcourt. This scheme is practically completed.

Tugby. A scheme for supplying this parish is in course of preparation.

Marefield. Arrangements have been made to supply this parish by branching off from the Cold Newton - Lowesby supply.

Water Shortage Except in one instance, an isolated block of four or five cottages, no serious shortages were reported during the year.

Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water 34.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The number of known cesspools at the end of 1951 was 515, and during the year some 4000 emptyings were carried out.

Regular inspections of sewers and sewer dykes were made and where any sewers were found to be fractured or choked immediate repairs were carried out.

Regular attention has been given to outfall ditches in order to keep them as clear as possible.

Great Glen & Burton Overy. The new foul drainage scheme for these parishes is now completed and, with the exception of two or three all properties have been connected to it.

A considerable number of house drains were found to be defective or unsatisfactory and in these instances, properties were totally redrained by the owners.

The scheme for the conversion of pail closets to water closets in these parishes has worked remarkably well and during the year some 153 conversions were carried out. 8 conversions were also carried out at premises other than dwellings.

On the line of sewer there remain only 8 or 9 houses still using pail closets but it is anticipated most of these will be converted during the coming year.

Drainage and Sewerage (continued)

Houghton, Stoughton and Billesdon. These schemes have been approved and authority to proceed is awaited.

Skeffington. This scheme is almost completed and is expected to be working early in 1952.

Tilton and Keyham. These schemes have been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health for consideration.

Closet Accommodation. (Dwellings).

Total number in the District at the end of 1951:-

Privies	...	...	...	...	5
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	946
Water closets	...	...	...	...	1523

Number of Pail Closets converted to water carriage system during the year ... 161

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Despite labour difficulties and sickness amongst the workmen in the early part of the year, this service has been well maintained during the past twelve months.

A good deal of difficulty has been experienced however, in obtaining land close at hand on which to tip the contents of pail closets and cesspools. The land available for this purpose was often considerable distances from the areas of collection, with the result that long hauls had to be made which, apart from proving costly, reduced the number of emptyings that could be carried out daily.

Nightsoil and the contents of cesspools are disposed of by tipping on agricultural land whilst household refuse is dealt with by the controlled method of tipping.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The particulars given under this heading are for all purposes including those given elsewhere in this Report :-

Total number of complaints received	...	...	155
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered			140

<u>Nature of inspections :</u>				<u>Inspected.</u>
Animal keeping	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses	...	...	...	4
Drainage works	...	...	...	828
Dwelling houses	...	...	...	578
Food premises	...	...	...	12
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	166
Refuse collection	..	...	...	120
Schools	...	...	...	10
Shops	...	...	...	23
Slaughter houses & Meat inspection				-
Tents, Vans, Sheds	...	...		12
Verminous premises	...	...		1
Water supplies	...	...	...	30
Workshops, etc.	...	...	...	31
Visits re infectious diseases	..			17
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	131

Notices.

<u>Preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Other</u>
Outstanding on 1st January 1951	4	1
Issued during the year	10	224
Complied with during year	13	225
Statutory action necessary	-	-
Outstanding 31st December 1951 .	1	-
<u>Statutory</u>		
Outstanding 1st January 1951 ...	1	-
Issued during year... ..	-	-
Complied with during year	1	-
Outstanding 31st December 1951..	-	-

PEST CONTROL. All sewers, sewage works, tanks and the tip were kept under constant observation and where treatments were found necessary, these were given.

A few complaints were received during the year of minor infestation on private property, and every assistance in dealing with this was given.

Insects No verminous premises were discovered during the year.

Camping Sites.

There are no Camping Sites in the area. The Council did agree however, to the issue of licences for the siting and occupation of 4 caravans. Three were stationed and have been maintained in a satisfactory manner.

H O U S I N G

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(i)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts,	160
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	242
(ii)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses included under sub-head (i) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	nil
(iii)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	nil
(iv)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head, found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	147

Housing (continued)

Remedy of Defects during the Year Without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	)	140
Number rendered fit by Owners.)	

A good deal of repair work has been done to some of the older type cottages in the district.

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

Number of Notices served	nil
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We do not condemn houses unless they become actually dangerous.

Thurnby Camp. Owing to rapid deterioration the huts on this camp are being pulled down as they become vacant. 10 were demolished during the year and only 19 families are in occupation on the camp at the moment.

Provision of New Houses.

132 Post War houses have already been erected by this Council, 14 of these during 1951, and 46 more are at the moment under construction.

Land has been secured and negotiations are taking place in respect of sites in various parts of the area on which to erect further houses.

The Council are erecting bungalows in a few parishes for aged people.

At the end of 1951 there were 257 applicants on the Council's Housing List, and new applications are still being received.

During the year 4 houses were erected by private enterprise and 8 were under construction.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for details of Biological Samples taken in the area.

Number of samples taken	47
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All negative to Myco. Tuberculosis and Brucella Abortus.

Ice Cream

8 premises in the Rural District are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream.

Inspection and Supervision of Food (continued)

Meat and Other Foods.

Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air have been adopted by the Council.

Inspections have been made from time to time during the year in premises where food is prepared. In all cases these were found to be satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN YOUNG

Medical Officer of Health.

10, High Street,
Melton Mowbray.

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

National Health Service Act, 1946

Section 26 - Diphtheria Immunisation.

Billesdon Rural District

Number of children who were immunised during the period
1st January - 31st December, 1951.

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Age at 31.12.51. i.e. born in year		Primary Immunisation	Booster Dose
Under 1	1951	7	-
1	1950	60	-
2	1949	16	-
3	1948	3	-
4	1947	-	2
5	1946	2	33
6	1945	1	18
7	1944	2	2
8	1943	-	-
9	1942	1	2
10	1941	-	1
11	1940	1	1
12	1939	-	1
13	1938	-	-
14	1937	-	-
		----- 93 =====	----- 60 =====

